

**Cypress Island NRCA/Aquatic Reserve
Comments from November 3, 2005 Open House Public Meeting**

Public Use

1. Concern about balance between commercial and recreational use of Cypress. Limit commercial (recreational) use, especially during peak use times, weekends, etc. Limit group size (12 including guides/instructors).
2. Road maintenance (via 4 wheelers) from Secret Harbor to Strawberry Bay (for personnel) to track run-away students.
3. Ensure that mooring buoys can be allowed/authorized for Cypress Island property owners and residents.
4. Limit road maintenance.
5. Reduce contamination of water supply (for Madrona Community) from Cypress Lake overflow.
6. DNR needs additional (DNR) campgrounds and enforcement staff to accommodate the needs and number of people who camp on Cypress.
7. Would like to see an artificial reef for recreational dive purposes, south of Eagle Harbor.
8. It is important to keep established DNR campsite at Pelican Beach, Cypress Head, and Strawberry Island in light of budget restraints.
9. Ensure access for commercial and individual recreational use. Do not limit types of access.
10. Residential landowners in Strawberry Bay must retain ability to anchor and buoy rights per law HB2400.
11. Retain recreation shellfish and fish foraging as Cypress residents currently enjoy.
12. Strict limits on commercial outfitters use of island, especially for camping.
13. Restrict hunting in NAP(north island from Pelican Beach north) on Cypress unless over population occurs.
14. Fish pens – Do they impact the publics' enjoyment? Do they impact wild fish?
15. Move the trail from Cypress Head to Secret Harbor or someplace else.
16. Maintain the island as a minimal impact recreational area. Development would be primitive and designed to interpret and educate visitors about natural and cultural resources.
17. Maintain the surrounding waters for research and low (minimal) impact recreation (e.g. Scuba diving).
18. Any development should showcase "green" self-sufficient technology and be accompanied by interpretive displays.
19. Evaluation of surrounding water for candidacy of artificial reef development should be completed.
20. Commercial development should be minimal and limited to entities that promote and educate regarding natural and cultural resource conservation.
21. Area should be kept natural and without the introduction of ships and other obviously man-made structures as artificial reefs.
22. The DNR went overboard by putting 13 dangerous and blighted berms across one shore stretch of logging path above Strawberry Bay.

23. Should not waste money monitoring the threat of someone swimming in Cypress Lake.
24. The location of buoys should be encouraged in relatively shallow protected water safest for navigation, off loading to shore, buoyed boats, and divers.
25. Remove derelict buoys.

Restoration

1. Develop an environmental learning center at the Secret Harbor School property.
2. Restore the estuary at Secret Harbor.
3. Survey and identification of forage fish spawning beaches.
4. Conduct eelgrass surveys.
5. Research feeder bluffs and drift cell movement.
6. Concerned with oil leaks, from boats and equipment, and other impacts from the fish farm.
7. Conduct surveys of marine birds and their nesting locations.
8. Close camping on Strawberry Island to restore nesting habitat for birds. Relocate composites elsewhere.
9. Take a more active approach in restoration of the airstrip.
10. Restore Secret Harbor by removing fish pens (impacts to wild fish).

Other

1. Leave everything alone and as natural as possible.
2. It would have been a lot more interesting and a lot more educational if there had been some kind of a briefing on the Cypress Island project before allowing people to come around and engage in informal conversations with DNR staff.